

9TH GRADE BIOLOGY 1

Fort Cherry Jr./Sr. High School

Mrs. Amos pamos@fortcherry.org amosfc.wikispaces.com

Materials Needed for Class EVERY DAY!

- Pencil or pen
- 3 ring binder
- Lined paper or notebook
- Highlighter
- Textbook
- Agenda

Various Art Supplies Needed at Home

- Colored pencils/crayons
- Scissors
- Glue/tape
- Ruler

Evaluation

The following work will be used to measure student performance in class throughout the year.

Note: If your name is not on your work, I cannot and will not give you credit for it.

Tests and quizzes: A test will be given at the end of each unit and will always be announced in advance. Quizzes will also be announced **UNLESS** the class is not following the established expectations. There will also be a cumulative final exam at the end of the year, so do NOT throw away any of your papers!

Labs: This class also involves hands-on components. In addition to participating in labs, students are responsible for completing lab handouts and other write-ups as instructed.

Homework: All homework is required to be written down in their agenda. This is the **FIRST** thing that should be done when students enter the classroom. **No late homework** will be accepted for points at any time (with the exception of absences).

Projects: At various times during the year, students will be required to create projects and presentations. Some will be individual while others will involve group work. All projects will be announced ahead of time with detailed expectations.

Warm-ups: For each unit, students will be provided with a packet of sample Keystone questions that will be used as daily warm-ups. In addition to recording homework at the start of class, students are responsible for coping down the 4 choices for that day's question from the board and then circling which answer they think is correct. When we discuss which choice is right and why, students are to record the correct answer in the grid provided. Their completed packets will be collected at the end of each unit.

Participation: This class will be much more valuable if constructive discussion occurs. This involves being prepared and on time for class as much as it means asking and answering questions. Taking notes and completing in class activities and labs also factor into their participation grade. *Students will earn up to 2 participation points each day for following procedures.*

Grading Policy

- The grade for each of the 4 report periods will be computed by simple percent, using total points earned divided by total possible points per period.
- A cumulative final exam will be given at the end of the year.
- Grade percentage range
 - A = 90 - 100
 - B = 80 - 89
 - C = 70 - 79
 - D = 60 - 69
 - F = 50 - 59
- There will be no extra credit projects. However, some bonus opportunities will be available on tests and exceptional projects or labs.

Make Up Work

- Make up work is the responsibility of the students (this includes FUNdamentals). Students are to see me at the BEGINNING of class to determine what was missed.
- Homework assigned when a student is present will be due the day the student returns to class. When they return, they will also be given all missing classwork and homework to make up according to the specified timeline, which will depend on how many days were missed.
- If a student is absent the day of a quiz or test, it is to be made up the day he/she returns. If a student is absent the day before a quiz or test, it is still to be taken on the regularly scheduled day.
- If a student knows ahead of time they will be absent, such as for a field trip, sporting event, or vacation, they must see me ahead of time to get the missing assignments.
- Note: If students do not turn in an excuse and get their agenda stamped within 3 days of their absence, any work assigned or due the day they were absent will be a zero.

Suggestions for a Successful Year

- **DO YOUR HOMEWORK!** Not only does it count for points, but it is designed to reinforce what is learned in class. I do not believe in giving you busy work!
- **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE!** Do not let large assignments like lab write ups and projects creep up on you. Review for tests and quizzes over time rather than cramming the night before.
- **ASK QUESTIONS!** I cannot help you if I do not know you need help. I am also here before and after school, and we can set up meeting times. Study groups are highly encouraged as well. Sometimes the best way to learn is by trying to teach someone else what they do not understand.

Expectations for Mrs. Amos' Biology Class

Rules

1. Follow all directions the first time.
2. Keep your hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.
3. Be in your seat with all of materials when the bell rings.
4. No teasing, put downs, swearing, or fighting.
5. No hats, food/candy, phones, iPods, or other electronics.

Discipline Consequences

First Consequence: Warning

Second Consequence: Sit apart from class for 5-10 min.

Third Consequence: Sit apart for 5-10 min. AND 30 minute detention

Fourth Consequence: Sit apart for 5-10 min. AND 60 minute detention

Fifth Consequence: Sit apart from class for 5-10 minutes, 60 minute detention, AND phone call home

Severe Clause: Go to office

Sub Clause: If your name is written down for any reason by a substitute or covering teacher, you will be given an automatic detention

Positive Consequences

- Verbal praise
- Positive note/email/phone call home
- Late homework pass
- Free time at end of class
- Pick own groups for lab or project

Contract for Expectations and Procedures

I, _____, understand and agree to follow the procedures and expectations as outlined in this packet while in Mrs. Amos' science class.

Signature of Student _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Contact information (email and/or phone) _____

LAB SAFETY CONTRACT

1. I will not misbehave in the laboratory or play with laboratory equipment or materials. I will not engage in behavior that is disruptive or dangerous or that interferes with another student's right to learn.
2. When first entering the science room, I will not touch any equipment, chemicals, or other materials in the laboratory area until instructed to do so.
3. I will follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. I will wait until I receive my teacher's permission to begin a lab activity. I will not carry out unassigned lab experiments without my teacher's permission.
4. I will protect my eyes, face, and hands while engaging in lab activities by wearing safety goggles and other protective gear as directed by my teacher.
5. I will work only at my assigned station.
6. I will not eat, drink, or taste anything in the laboratory. This includes food and drink as well as chemicals.
7. I will report any injury or accident to my teacher immediately.
8. I will clean up my lab supplies and any mess I have made as directed by the teacher.
9. I will wash my hands thoroughly after using chemicals and lab equipment. When using chemicals, I will not touch my mouth, lips, or eyes until after I have washed my hands.
10. I will never remove chemicals or other materials from the lab area.

I, _____, understand that failure to comply with these safety guidelines may result in my being removed from class and that I will lose credit for the work that is done during my absence.

Student signature _____

Date _____

I have read this lab safety contract and understand what is expected of my child during science laboratory activities.

Parent/guardian signature _____

Date _____